

graceWORKS ! GOING DEEPER! **The Papou Study Bible** is a daily study provided by me to help



folks explore the depth and joy of the “conneXion” life of God. It’s my personal study, and is not intended as a doctrinal statement or statement of any church or denomination or congregation. It’s also my belief that “grace” works, and the servant of God should always want to go deeper. Multi-tasking as usual, I’m also calling this the “Papou Study Bible.” I’m writing it as if I were speaking to my girls Paige, Stephanie, and Ashley, and any descendant they have (particularly Nicole, Joey, Matthew, Dylan, Julianne, and Lizzie, who know me as “Papou”). And to anyone who wants to consider me a spiritual Dad or “Papou.” I want them to be able to study the Bible with Papou (grandpa in Greek) after I’m gone---and if they don’t, I’ll haunt them. The Scriptures say it’s noble to “search the Scriptures daily” to verify truth like the ancient Bereans did (Acts 17:11). My folks came from Berea. My incredible Dad (and your grandfather and great grandfather, guys), Vasil Charles Valekis taught me to do this like he did---every day until I die. He taught me and everyone I know to go to church no matter what and to put God first. While Mama (Maria Pagona Stratakis Valekis)

never really did this, she made sure we listened to Daddy on this one. She would have hit us with a spatula or frying pan or worse if we didn’t. This is a simple sharing my “daily search.” And I’d like to think it is a continuation of God’s life through my Dad through me. Both my “Dads” by the way. And a way to honor him, mama and our loving “Dad”---God. And for all of us to be together, in Spirit, even when we I join them in heaven. I like to use the Blue Letter literal, very “visual,” Greek translation a lot to help “visualize” these truths the beautiful way Greek enables you to view. And I like to share this with folks serving in an elder capacity, or any capacity, to grow them, challenge them, and stretch them. But especially share it with my girls. And when you study these, I’ll make sure to connect with you from heaven. *Ever an orthodox Greek, Jim Valekis*



**ChristIN
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Colossians 1:27 (King James Version)

²⁷To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is

Christ in you, the hope of glory

graceWORKS! GOING DEEPER
Ezekiel 30 Part 2²

So Ezekiel spoke of a “day of the Lord” coming for Egypt. This has led me to research the “Day of the Lord” in Scripture, so see what I could discern. Yesterday, I simply linked certain Scriptures where it is spoken of, and listed the reference Scriptures given in the NIV study bible. I got a good sampling, and saw several nuances of the “Day of the Lord”---how it could mean a day of judgment in a particular time and place in history, to talking about the culmination of this era and the Judgment and reward that follows. I want to now examine and comment on these Scriptures. Enjoy!

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² New International Version (NIV) Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV® Copyright ©1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. (Author’s note: This translation, and the source for many of the study notes that accompany it, are taken from The NIV Study Bible, Copyright 1985,1995, 2002, 2008, 2011 . These notes re referenced throughout and paraphrased frequently in the notes.)

Ezekiel 30 New International Version (NIV)

A Lament Over Egypt

30 The word of the LORD came to me: ²“Son of man, prophesy and say: ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says:

This is the third prophecy against Egypt. Jerusalem was under siege at this time.

“Wail and say,

“Alas for that day!”

³ For the day is near,

the day of the LORD is near—

a day of clouds,

a time of doom for the nations.

This is the Scripture that kicked the study off. Again, the Day of the Lord is mentioned many times in Scripture in various ways. In this particular case, it’s referring to the day of Egypt’s judgment which was near. It’s referred to as a Day of Clouds. I want to study a bit about the “Day of the Lord” and see what shakes out.

Joel is my first stop in Scripture:

Joel 2:1-2 New International Version (NIV)

2 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy hill. Let all who live in the land tremble, for the day of the LORD is coming. It is close at hand—² a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and blackness. Like dawn spreading across the mountains a large and mighty army comes, such as never was in ancient times nor ever will be in ages to come.

Ok. So this particular “day of the Lord” had to do with a plague of locusts that Joel spoke of occurring. The study Bible introduction to this book sees this as a real plague of locusts. The day of the Lord is not just one of judgment of the nations but deliverance and blessing for Israel. Along with the following prophets:

Isaiah 2:10-21	Jeremiah 4:5-9	Amos 5:18-20	Zephaniah 1:7-18
10 Go into the rocks, hide in the ground from the fearful presence of the LORD and the splendor of his majesty! 11 The	5 “Announce in Judah and proclaim in Jerusalem and say: ‘Sound the trumpet throughout the land!’ Cry aloud and say:	18 Woe to you who long for the day of the LORD! Why do you long for the day of the LORD? That day will be darkness, not light.	7 Be silent before the Sovereign LORD, for the day of the LORD is near. The LORD has prepared a sacrifice;

<p>eyes of the arrogant will be humbled and human pride brought low; the LORD alone will be exalted in that day. 12 The LORD Almighty has a day in store for all the proud and lofty, for all that is exalted (and they will be humbled), 13 for all the cedars of Lebanon, tall and lofty, and all the oaks of Bashan, 14 for all the towering mountains and all the high hills, 15 for every lofty tower and every fortified wall, 16 for every trading ship and every stately vessel. 17 The arrogance of man will be brought low and human pride humbled; the LORD alone will be exalted in that day 18 and the idols will totally disappear. 19 People will flee to caves in the rocks and to holes in the ground from the fearful presence of the LORD and the splendor of his majesty, when he rises to shake the earth. 20 In that day people will throw away to the moles and</p>	<p>‘Gather together! Let us flee to the fortified cities!’ 6 Raise the signal to go to Zion! Flee for safety without delay! For I am bringing disaster from the north, even terrible destruction.” 7 A lion has come out of his lair; a destroyer of nations has set out. He has left his place to lay waste your land. Your towns will lie in ruins without inhabitant. 8 So put on sackcloth, lament and wail, for the fierce anger of the LORD has not turned away from us. 9 “In that day,” declares the LORD, “the king and the officials will lose heart, the priests will be horrified, and the prophets will be appalled.”</p>	<p>19 It will be as though a man fled from a lion only to meet a bear, as though he entered his house and rested his hand on the wall only to have a snake bite him. 20 Will not the day of the LORD be darkness, not light— pitch-dark, without a ray of brightness?</p>	<p>he has consecrated those he has invited. 8 “On the day of the LORD’s sacrifice I will punish the officials and the king’s sons and all those clad in foreign clothes. 9 On that day I will punish all who avoid stepping on the threshold, who fill the temple of their gods with violence and deceit. 10 “On that day,” declares the LORD, “a cry will go up from the Fish Gate, wailing from the New Quarter, and a loud crash from the hills. 11 Wail, you who live in the market district; all your merchants will be wiped out, all who trade with silver will be destroyed. 12 At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps and punish those who are complacent, who are like wine left on its dregs, who think, ‘The LORD will do nothing, either good or bad.’ 13 Their wealth will be plundered, their houses demolished. Though they build houses, they will not live in them; though they plant vineyards, they will not drink</p>
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<p>bats their idols of silver and idols of gold, which they made to worship.</p> <p>21 They will flee to caverns in the rocks and to the overhanging crags from the fearful presence of the LORD and the splendor of his majesty, when he rises to shake the earth.</p>			<p>the wine.”</p> <p>14 The great day of the LORD is near— near and coming quickly.</p> <p>The cry on the day of the LORD is bitter; the Mighty Warrior shouts his battle cry.</p> <p>15 That day will be a day of wrath— a day of distress and anguish, a day of trouble and ruin, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and blackness—</p> <p>16 a day of trumpet and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the corner towers. 17 “I will bring such distress on all people that they will grope about like those who are blind, because they have sinned against the LORD. Their blood will be poured out like dust and their entrails like dung. 18 Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the LORD’s Wrath.” In the fire of his jealousy the whole earth will be consumed, for he will make a sudden end of all who live on</p>
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Let's look at some more Scriptures.

Mal 4:5 “See, I will send the prophet Elijah to you before that great and dreadful day of the LORD comes.

So here the “day of the Lord” is called “that great and dreadful day.”

1 Cor 5:5 hand this man over to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, so that his spirit may be saved on the day of the Lord.

A sexually sinful man was being handed over to Satan for the “destruction of the flesh.” What does that mean? The NIV footnote says the man was being handed over to Satan “by expelling the man from church.” A textual footnote says that it would be “the flesh” in the sense of fallen flesh that opposes the Spirit that would be destroyed. I wonder if that means the man was simply being given over to his sin, and it would reap horrific destructive consequences. At any rate, note the inference to the Day of the Lord---a goal for that day will be the “saving of the spirit.” How does the destruction of his flesh play into that? Perhaps if the day is a day of judgment, the day of the Lord is a time when a final purgation occurs, and all that is against Christ is eliminated.

2 Cor 1:14¹⁴ as you have understood us in part, you will come to understand fully that you can boast of us just as we will boast of you in the day of the Lord Jesus.

The “day” of the Lord (Jesus) will also be a day that Christian apostles like Paul will “boast” of those “won” to the Lord in this dimension of existence called earth.

1 Th 2:19-20 – For what is our hope, our joy, or the crown in which we will glory in the presence of our Lord Jesus when he comes? Is it not you? Indeed, you are our glory and joy?

1 Th 5:22 for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.

The day of the Lord will come unexpectedly---like a “thief in the night.”

2Pe 3:10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare.

This seems to be speaking more to the Day of Judgment than the “Day” of the Second Coming. Are their two days?

1 Co 1:8	3:12-15	1 Cor 5:5	2Co 1:14	Php 1:6, 10	Ph 2:16
⁸ He will also keep you firm	¹² If anyone builds on this	5 hand this man over to	¹⁴ as you have understood us	⁶ being confident of	¹⁶ as you hold firmly to the

<p>to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.</p> <p>In verse 7 it speaks of waiting until “our Lord Jesus Christ is revealed.”</p> <p>It’s not so much a second coming as a second visible appearing. Again, is this day compressed with the day of Judgment, or is there a special time of Judgment as well.</p>	<p>foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, ¹³ their work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each person’s work. ¹⁴ If what has been built survives, the builder will receive a reward. ¹⁵ If it is burned up, the builder will suffer loss but yet will be saved—even though only as one escaping through the flames.</p> <p>This day of “judgment” seems to be tied closely with His return. Again it’s a time of purification, purging, PURGATORY no less.</p>	<p>Satan for the destruction of the flesh, so that his spirit may be saved on the day of the Lord.</p> <p>We’ve referenced this one already, but it sure ties in with the purgation thing.</p>	<p>in part, you will come to understand fully that you can boast of us just as we will boast of you in the day of the Lord Jesus.</p> <p>For some it will be a day praise and honor and blessing and even “boasting.” So bad will be judged, but good praised!</p>	<p>this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. . . .⁹ And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight,¹⁰ so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ,</p> <p>A goal---to be pure and blameless and holy.</p>	<p>word of life. And then I will be able to boast on the day of Christ that I did not run or labor in vain.</p> <p>Ditto. It will be a day to see if your work did please the Lord, and make, not miss, the mark!</p>
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Other Scriptures referenced are 1 Th 5:2:

1 Thessalonians 5 New International Version (NIV)

The Day of the Lord

5 Now, brothers and sisters, about times and dates we do not need to write to you, ² for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³ While people are saying, “Peace and safety,” destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.

Destruction is also associated with the day of the Lord.

Romans 2:5 New International Version (NIV)

⁵ But because of your stubbornness and your unrepentant heart, you are storing up wrath against yourself for the day of God’s wrath, when his righteous judgment will be revealed.

God’s opinion about everything will be revealed.

2 Peter 2:9 New International Version (NIV)

⁹ if this is so, then the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from trials and to hold the unrighteous for punishment on the day of judgment.

These Scriptures speak of judgment. But it is also called a “Day of Redemption.”

Ephesians 4:30 New International Version (NIV)

³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

The “Day of Redemption” is spoken of here. For some destruction, or correction of all that is not of the Lord. For others, vindication and redemption.

The “last day” is spoken of when people are raised (but is this the same as judged)?

John 6:39 New International Version (NIV)

³⁹ And this is the will of him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all those he has given me, but raise them up at the last day.

The “Great Day” of Judgment even of fallen angels.

Jude 6 New International Version (NIV)

⁶ And the angels who did not keep their positions of authority but abandoned their proper dwelling—these he has kept in darkness, bound with everlasting chains for judgment on the great Day.

2 Thessalonians 1:10 New International Version (NIV)

¹⁰ on the day he comes to be glorified in his holy people and to be marveled at among all those who have believed. This includes you, because you believed our testimony to you.

It's a day of both punishment and glorification.

2 Thessalonians 1:9-10 New International Version (NIV)

⁹ They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might ¹⁰ on the day he comes to be glorified in his holy people and to be marveled at among all those who have believed. This includes you, because you believed our testimony to you.

Are these all speaking of the same day? I don't know.

Ok, I'll get back to Ezekiel tomorrow. God bless.